Application No.: 10/697,432 Docket No.: SHO-0052

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 2, amend claims 1, 3, and 4, and add claim 5 as set forth below.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A gaming machine comprising:

a liquid crystal display device including: a liquid crystal panel; and a light guiding plate in which formed with a light transmission area through which passes light and disposed at a rear of the liquid crystal panel, and configured to guide light emitted from illumination means for the liquid crystal panel to the liquid crystal panel;

a variable display device disposed at a rear of the liquid crystal display device and opposing to the light transmission area, and including a plurality of reels provided in a row each on which a plurality of symbols are arranged;

light emission means disposed in a proximity of the light transmission area on a side of the reel;

a drive unit configured to drive the light emission means; and
a protective member configured to cover the drive unit and at least a portion of
the light emission means, said protective member having an outer shape so as to be distant that is
separated from the drive unit at at least a predetermined distance or more.

2. (CANCELED)

- 3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The gaming machine as claimed in claim 2 claim 1, wherein the protective member is formed in a shape to diffuse the light emitted by the light emission part.
- 4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The gaming machine as claimed in elaim 2 claim 1, wherein the protective member is formed of a material that diffuses the light emitted by the light emission part.
- 5. (NEW) The gaming machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer shape of said protective member is separated from the drive unit at at least a predetermined distance to avoid an effect on the driver unit by an external magnetic force.